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# Diary and Journal (1755-1807) of Seth Metcalf

Prepared by  
The Historical Records Survey  
Division of Professional and Service Projects  
Work Projects Administration

The Historical Records Survey  
Boston, Massachusetts  
October 1939







DIARY AND JOURNAL  
(1755-1807)  
OF  
SETH METCALF

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Division of Professional and Service Projects  
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Sponsored by

The Worcester Historical Society

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The Historical Records Survey  
Boston, Massachusetts  
October, 1939

The Historical Records Survey

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## PREFACE

By authority of a Presidential Letter, the Historical Records Survey of the Works Progress Administration was established in January 1936 as part of Federal Project No. 1 under the national direction of Dr. Luther H. Evans. It continued as a federal project until August 31, 1939 when its sponsorship was undertaken by Frederic W. Cook, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In fulfillment of its purpose to preserve historical source materials and render them accessible to scholars and the public, it has laid emphasis upon its survey of public archives of state, county and local units of the government; upon the American Imprints Inventory, a comprehensive recording of the early products of the printing press in each state; upon its survey of historical manuscript collections and upon its inventories of church records and those of business, labor and social organizations. In Massachusetts, a catalogue of early American portraits has been completed. For a complete record of the published works of the Historical Records Survey in Massachusetts, see List of Publications at the end of this volume.

The present publication is a transcription of an eighteenth century diary and journal, found among the manuscripts of the Worcester Historical Society. The diary which is of the year 1757 is written on paper of good quality, folded and stitched in the middle to make a small book of thirty-nine pages, six inches long by four wide. The paper is yellowed with age, the ink faded, and the writing barely legible in places. Although the diary was ascribed by Harriette Forbes<sup>1</sup> to Seth Metcalf of Rutland, Massachusetts, it reposed in the society in a folder marked "Diary of Robert Merriam". Since the text itself gave no obvious evidence of authorship, further research was necessary to confirm Miss Forbes' attribution. A careful check of the names and places mentioned indicated that the author had been, at the time of writing, a member of Captain Ebenezer Learned's company of Colonel Frye's regiment, which formed part of the garrison at Fort Edward, New York, in 1757. There was, however, no known record of the muster roll of Captain Learned's company, nor of Putnam's Rangers on August 1, 1757, nor any list of the men discharged at Albany on December 22, 1757.

A journal of similar appearance and penmanship was found some months later in another part of the manuscript holdings of the society. The author of this journal was Seth Metcalf of Rutland, Massachusetts. The first entry was dated November 18, 1755; the last, January 1, 1807. The entry of April 25, 1757 was as follows: "I Set out to go into A Campaign and I was tacon Sick the first Day of August and at the Same time the Enemy Laid Seage At fort wiliam henry within 17 miles At this time I

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1. New England Diaries, 1602-1800, compiled by Harriette Merrielfield Forbes, (privately printed, The Perkins Press, Topsfield, Mass., 1923) p. 202.

was under trouble But God Delevered us out of the hand of the Enemy and Blessed be his holy name that he hath ben So Gracious and Mercifull to me as to Return Me to My friends the third Day of January following." The dates and other details afforded by these entries corresponded exactly with those in the anonymous diary and confirm Miss Forbes' attribution of the diary to Seth Metcalf.

Records of Rutland<sup>1</sup> show that a son, Seth, was born to Ebenezer and Margret Metcalf on September 30, 1735, but reveal nothing further about his parents. Information was found that Ebenezer Metcalf, who came to Rutland from Wrentham, and lived in the Northwest School District of Paxton, a territory formerly in Rutland, had a son, Seth, who lived to the age of 92.<sup>2</sup> The Wrentham records give the date of the marriage of Ebenezer Metcalf and Margret Rockwood as July 11, 1732.<sup>3</sup>

It was no part of the program of the British command to campaign in the Hudson Valley in 1757. The winter of 1756-57 was spent in strengthening the British positions at Fort Edward and an outpost on Lake George, Fort William Henry. The summer offensive was to be an attack on Louisburg. Montcalm, however, decided to attempt the capture of Albany to secure control of the valley. He assembled a large army at Ticonderoga, and proceeded southward until he met resistance at Fort William Henry. The British commander, General Daniel Webb, was in no way prepared to engage a major force. Fort William Henry was taken and burned, leaving only Fort Edward to protect Albany. To the surprise of the British, however, Montcalm, instead of following up his advantage, returned to his base, having accomplished practically nothing of military value.

In these stirring events, Seth Metcalf, then a youth of 22, played a minor role. From June 13 to November 10, 1757, he was stationed at Fort Edward which he apparently rarely left until he returned to Albany, thence to his home. He evidently made daily entries in his diary sometimes without further note, as a method of keeping track of the days and months. His comments, when he offers them, are sparing and brief, restricted not only by the exigencies of military life, but also by a very evident difficulty in expression. This diary is not to be compared in fulness of description or colorful detail with that of Rufus Putnam which covers the same campaign.

The journal (p. 17) which covers mainly Metcalf's later life consists of annual entries or "remarks upon the year", and contains references to memorable events, to extremes of weather, and above all to the pervading and encompassing Providence, whose hand the author saw in all

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1 Systematic History Fund, Vital Records of Rutland, Mass. To the end of the year 1850 (Worcester, Mass., published by Franklin P. Rice, Trustee of the Fund, 1905) p. 67.

2. Ledyard Bill, History of Paxton, Worcester, 1889, p. 116.

3. Vital Records of Wrentham, Massachusetts To the Year 1850, Vol. II - Marriages, Deaths, compiled by Thomas W. Baldwin A.B., S.B., member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society (Boston, 1910), p. 341.

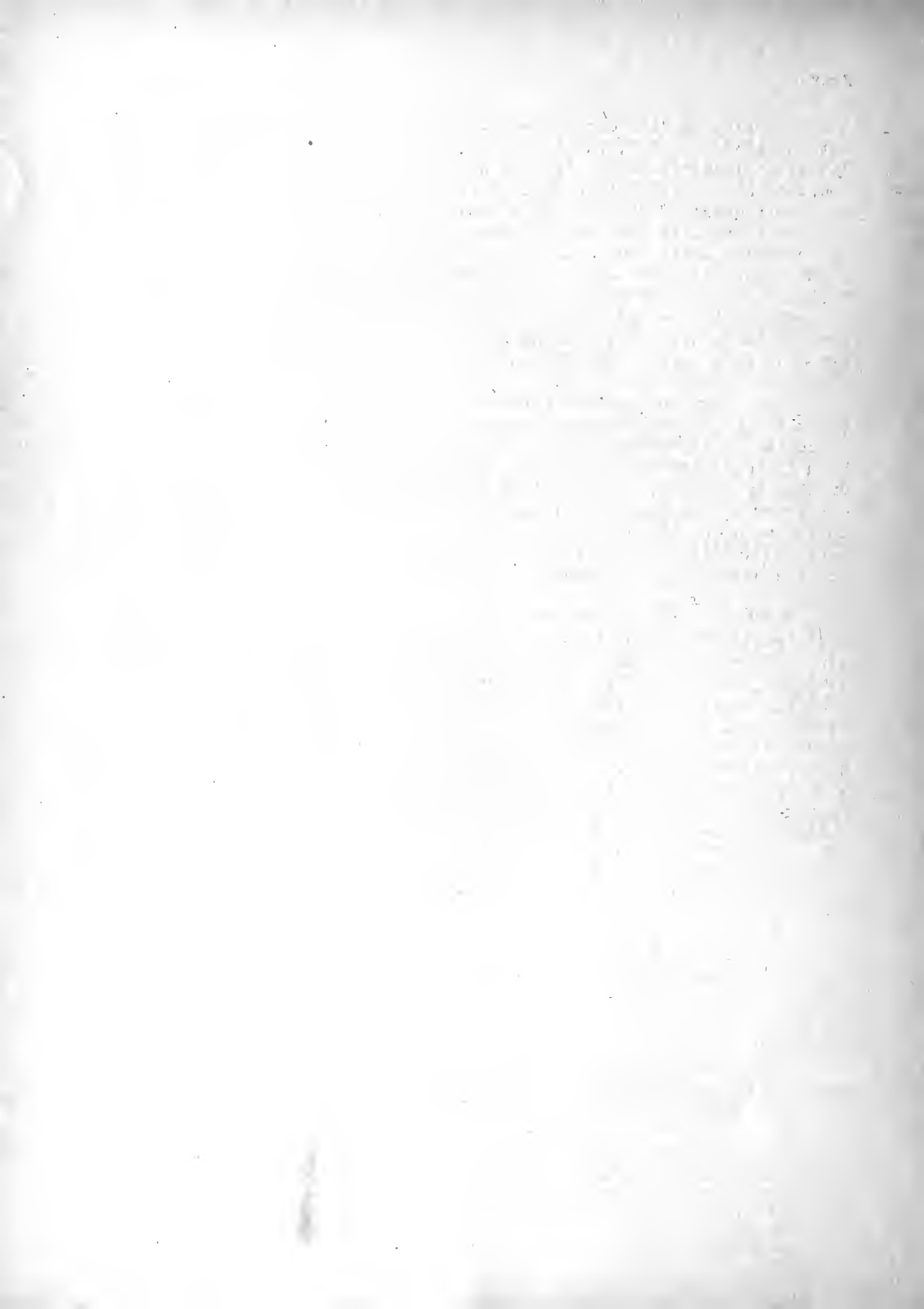
## Preface

things. Even in this annual record there is a gap of twenty-eight years, between 1767 and 1795, but the entry of December 30, 1795 explains the lapse, at least in part: "I have Neglected my Duty to my Children and my heart hath Ben Set on this Vain World O how forgetfull have I been of the providences of God that have passed over me for a Great number of years past". Thereafter the annual "remarks upon the year" continue with only one omission until 1807, when they cease although the author lived for twenty years longer. After 1795, the entries contain little of general interest. Like many men of his time, wresting a precarious living from the rocky hillsides of central Massachusetts, with little contact with the world outside his farm, Seth Metcalf's mind and culture were perforce restricted to a narrow, but deep and sincere religious faith.

Both diary and journal have no marks of punctuation whatever. In transcribing, punctuation has therefore been omitted. The order of entries, which is exactly chronological except for that of October 29, 1758 and 1760, has been followed exactly. Sentence structure, where apparent, has been indicated by spacing. The spelling of the original has been retained, a corrected or modernized spelling being included in parenthesis immediately following a questionable word. Explanatory matter will be found in footnotes. Two maps are provided, one showing places mentioned in Massachusetts and the other the upper Hudson River Valley.

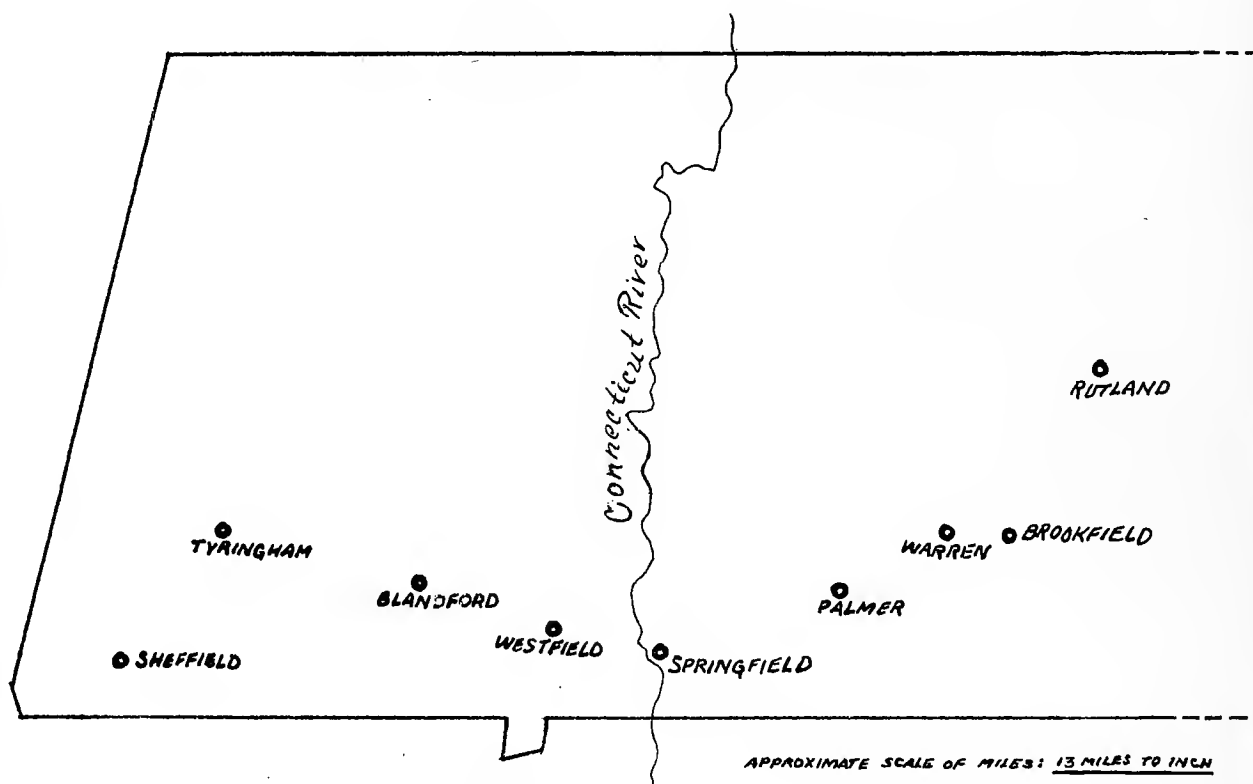
The transcription and research work were done by William S. Piper, assisted by Louise Sullivan, under the direction of Lincoln E. Ross, supervisor of the survey in Worcester and Franklin counties. Editorial assistance was rendered in the Boston office by Ethel G. Wood and in the Washington office of the survey by Margaret S. Eliot. In addition to the above-named, this transcription is primarily due to the sponsorship of the Worcester Historical Society, whose director, Captain George I. Cross, has been most cooperative. The helpfulness of Clarence S. Brigham and Robert W. G. Vail of the American Antiquarian Society and of the officials of the Massachusetts Historical Society and the Massachusetts Archives is gratefully acknowledged.

Carl J. Wennerblad  
State Supervisor



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OUTLINE MAP OF WESTERN MASS.  
Showing Route Followed by Capt. Learned's Company

## DIARY OF THE CAMPAIGN OF 1757

April the 25 I set out from home into the Servis and marched to Brookfield  
 April the 26 We Exersiesed fier lock  
 April the 27 We Exersiesed the fier lock  
 April the 28 we went to meton to Weston (Warren) and Mr. Jones preacht  
 A Sermon to us from these words in the 119 Psalm 143 virce My Soul  
 is Continually in my hand yet Do I not forget thy Law  
 April the 29<sup>1</sup> we Exersiesed the fier locks in the Afternoon Capt  
 Learnerd<sup>2</sup> Came Up with the Rest of the Company  
 April the 30 we Received our Billiting money and marched to Kingstown  
 (Palmer)  
 may the first we marched to Springfield  
 may the Second we Crost the River (Connecticut River) and marched to  
 west Side of town  
 May the 3 we marched to Glasgo (Blandford)  
 may the forth we marched through the Green woods<sup>3</sup> 18 miles  
 may the 5 we marched to Sheffield and took our Provisions from there  
 we marched to Love Joys<sup>4</sup> and Some Lay in the woods  
 may the 6 we marched to Centerhook (Kinderhook) we the first company  
 may the 7 we Drawd A weeks provision  
 Sabathday may the 8 we held A meeting By our Selves in A Barn  
 may the 9  
 may the 10 we marched to About a mile to Camp  
 may the 11 May the 12 May the 13 May the 14 May the 15 May the 16 May the 17  
 May the 18 we marched to Greenbush which was 2 Days march  
 May the 19 we marched to the flats (Albany Flats)  
 May the 20 one of our men<sup>5</sup> was Shot wounded by An Axident through the hip  
 and Ball was Cut out By the Docter  
 May the 21 we marched to Scantekook (Schachtihook, now Schagticoke, on  
 Hoosack Creek) and Campt in A Barn by the River  
 May the 22 Some of our men went out A Scouting But See nothing  
 May the 23 May the 24

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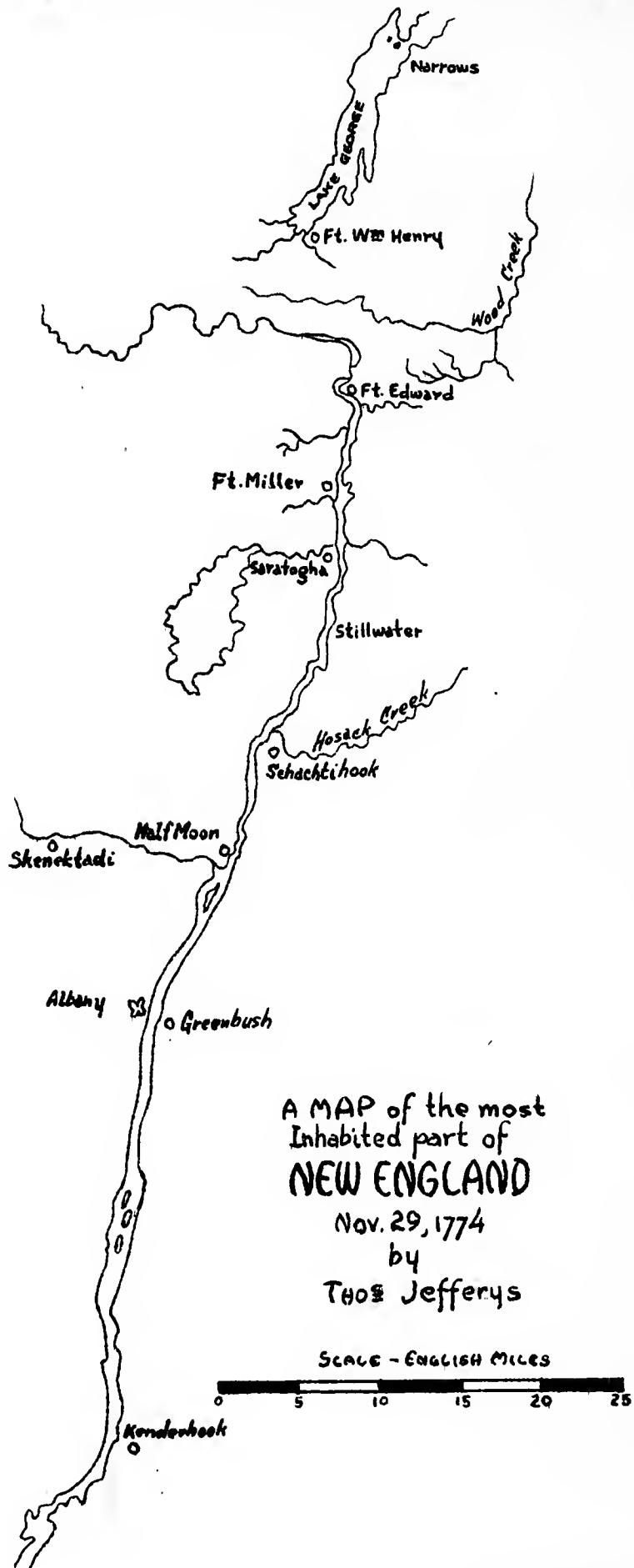
1. On this date Rufus Putnam, then a lade of eighteen, who had enlisted in Capt. Learned's Company on March 15, 1757, writes in his Journal that "Capt. Learned's Company mustered together at Brookfield in order to march." Rufus Putnam, Journal of Gen. Rufus Putnam, 1757-60, (Albany, N.Y. Joel Munsell's Sons, 82 State St., 1886), p. 25.

2. Captain Ebenezer Learned of the North Gore, Oxford, enlisted, drilled and equipped a company of fifty-one men for service in 1756. In 1757 he mustered this new company for service at the Province Forts. G.F. Daniels, History of Oxford, (Worcester, 1892), p. 121.

3. Forest area in the heart of the Berkshires. Rufus Putnam's entry for the same day records the march as "Through the Green Woods to No. 1." Putnam, op. cit., p. 26. No. 1, the southwest township of the nine laid out by the act of the General Court in 1736 was later called Tyringham.

4. A tavern in Nobletown, now Hillsdale, New York. Nathaniel Ames, An Astronomical Diary or an Almanack for the year 1760, (Boston).

5. Jedediah Winslow. Putnam, op. cit., p. 27.



## Diary

May the 25 we kept Eleetion<sup>1</sup> with Pork and Peas and very Good River water only  
 May the 26 our Company marched Back again to the Landing (on the Hudson River)  
 May the 27 we were Sent to work at Scaticook<sup>2</sup> and had an alarm which Caused us to Run to the Party  
 May the 28 May the 29 May the 30  
 May the 31 I was upon Gaurd and I Saw two Indians But had not An oppertunity to fire at them  
 June the first the officer of the Gaurd and all was found A Sleep and was Confind for it  
 June the 2  
 June the 3 we went A Scout in the morning and in the Afternoon Coln'l fry (Colonel Joseph Frye, regimental commander) Came to us and ware drawd up in Arms to Receive him  
 June the 4  
 June the 5 Some men ware Sent After the Docters Stores  
 June the 6  
 June the 7 they Carried the Docters Stores to Still water  
 June the 8  
 June the 9 we marched to Stillwater  
 June the 10  
 June the 11 Conl'l fry marched with the whole Ridgment to Sarritogue (now Schuylerville) it was very hot and Some Did falter By the way this Day the Indians did mischief at Fort Edward<sup>3</sup> kild and took nine men Belonging to Connecticut  
 June the 12 there was two hundred and fifty hamshere (New Hampshire) men Came to Sarritogue  
 June the 13 we marched to fort Edward the Advance Gaurd Saw Some Indians neer Fort millow<sup>4</sup> But Did not fire at them we Campd on the west Side of the River<sup>5</sup>

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1. General Election in Boston, a holiday. Ames, Almanack for the Year 1757.

2. Three companies were detailed to cut hay for the King's baggage horses and fence in some fifteen hundred acres of mowing. Putnam, Journal, p. 28.

3. On the easterly side of the Hudson. Built in 1755 as Fort Lyman, on the order of Sir William Johnson, its name was changed to Fort Edward on September 21 of that year. Located at the "Great Carrying Place" it was the vital point in the protection of Albany and the South, from French inroads by way of Lake Champlain. It was also the logical base for British expeditions to the north. William H. Hill, Old Fort Edward, (N.Y., 1929), p. 86.

4. Fort Miller was a fortified camping and storage ground rather than a fort. Protected by low marsh lands on three sides, its defenses were a parapet and block-house on the exposed lateral. Previous to 1758 there is no known reference to this as Fort Miller, other than that made by Asa Fitch in his Historical Survey of Washington County, 1849, which mentions its construction in 1755 under direction of Colonel Miller Wm. H. Hill, op. cit., pp. 195-198, is inclined to believe that its principal works did not exist prior to 1759.

5. There was a large comparatively open and level area on the west bank. Hill, op. cit., p. 212.

June the 14 our Company went A Scouting Before Day But See nothing and we Crost the River to the north Side of the fort and Campd there

June the 15

June the 16 Captain putman<sup>1</sup> Came in from A Scout of 11 Days and Brought In A frenchman and he Informs us that an Army is Coming A gainst us Very Soon

June the 17 we ware all mustered and Vewed By A Regular major (Major Fletcher) and had the marshall Law Red to us Samuel Phips Died Belonging to our Company

June the 18 they Sent out two Scouts (scouting parties) one into the woods and one to Saritogue they Lay About one mile from the fort

June the 19 this Scout that went for Saritogue was Ambusht About the Break of Day 8 of them was Regulars 5 Regulars Run to Sarritogue and Another flung Down his Gun and Run Away the Rest Stood their ground and Beet of the Indiens one of the Regulars was killed we Sent out a Scout of one hundred men for four Days

June the 20 there was A Scout of twenty men Sent out for 7 Days

June the 21 Serg't Gates was Confind and the Scout Came in that went out for four Days

June the 22 there Came in About 30 maquas<sup>2</sup> and Brought in A Captive Serg't Gates had a Cort marshal upon him and Brook (him) for not Doing his Duty

June the 23

June the 24 General web<sup>3</sup> came to this fort

June the 25

June the 26 was one Sermon preached

June the 27 they Laid out the fashen Batre (fascine battery) Eight Can- non Came to this fort with on Ridgment of yorkers (New Yorkers)

June the 28 there was one Ridgment of Regulars Came to this fort 13 frenchmen Came to this fort as they ware going to the french and they thought this was A french fort

June the 29 they Began the fashen Batre and Conno'l fry Gave order for a Scouting Party to Be Raised and freed from other Duty

June the 30

---

1. Isreal Putnam, a cousin of Rufus Putnam's father, later commanded the American forces at Bunker Hill and was made a Major General in 1775. He was in command of the Rangers at Fort Edward.

2. See footnote 1, next page

3. Brigadier General Daniel Webb in command at Fort Edward. His unsavory record is summed up in a letter from Sir William Johnson to Captain Phillip Schuyler thus: "He (Webb) is the only British General, in short I might say the only British officer of rank, I ever knew or heard of who was personally a coward." After the fall of Fort William Henry, Webb was ordered to England to answer charges but in some way escaped censure. Though in command of over two thousand men at Fort Edward he failed to send Munro at Fort William Henry the aid he had promised. Webb was probably influenced in this by the exaggerated reports of the numbers of the enemy under Montcalm. Hill, Old Fort Edward, p 135.

## Diary

- July the first Captain Pupnam (Putnam) Espied three hundred french and Indiens in Batoos (bateaux) at wood Creek and fierd upon them with About 80 men and he kept them from Landing and we Recon that he made A Considerable Slater (slaughter) among them they Sent to this fort for help and there was About 300 men went out for their Relief three of our men was wounded two of which the Enemy Got After our men Drawd of Some maquas<sup>1</sup> Came in with two Scalps two men maid their Escape from Canada and they inform us that an Army is Coming Against us Containing 8000
- July the 2
- July the 3 there was four frenchmen that Deserted Came to fort william hennery
- July ye 4 July the 5 July the 6 July the 7 July the 8 July the 9
- July the 10 our maquas Brot in A frenchman Captive
- July the 11
- July the 12 we hear that the Indiens kild and took neer twenty men at fort william hennery Last Saterdag
- July the 13
- July the 14 Joseph Metcalf and Black (Abraham Black)<sup>2</sup> Came to this fort and Brought me Some Consave Cheese Shugar and Drid Apple
- July the 15 Capt Learnerd Set out with A Scout for 8 Days there was one man fell Down Dead<sup>3</sup> uppon the Praid (parade ground) he had Ben not well for Some time one of the Centries kild an another at fort william hennery
- July the 16 July the 17
- July the 18 there was men Deteacht and Sent to mend the Road and ordered to Cary their packs with them
- July the 19 July the 20
- July the 21 there was one man Shot to Death for Desertion also Capt wests Lief't (Lieutenant Dormit) was out with A Party of men and they Came upon Some Indiens And they Shot him Down Dead upon the Spot and then his men Betook themselves to flight and maide their Escap
- July the 22 there was one man whipt<sup>4</sup> till the Blood Came out at the knee of his Breeches
- July the 23 About nine of the Clock in the morning the Enemy<sup>5</sup> fell upon the Covering party for Carpenders the fort was Emmediately Alarmd

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1. The term "marquas" of which this was obviously a misspelling, was applied by the French generally to Indians of the Five Nations.

2. Both Black and Metcalf came from Rutland, Massachusetts.

3. "This day there was one of Captain Tapslees men a playing Ball and immediately dropped down dead." Putnam, Journal, p. 37.

4. Whipping was the form of punishment in the army for most offenses. The number of lashes varied from five hundred to one thousand, administered with the cat-o'-nine-tails. This is the only whipping mentioned by Metcalf. Hill quotes many instances from Putnam, Lyman, and Montessor.

5. "About four hundred Indiens." Putnam, op. cit., p. 37. These Indians were under the French Lieutenant Marin. Hill, Old Fort Edward, p. 125.

and A Party went out and met with the Enemy and they Continued A Very Smart fire for the Space of half An hour then the Enemy Drew of thirteen of our men was kild and Some more wounded Capt Putnam and Capt Learnerd went out with A Scout But Cold not overtake them they See whare the Indiens Cut Beens and Peald Bark<sup>1</sup> to Cary their Dead and wounded we Recon that there was neer 400 of the Enemy

July the 24 At night there was a Post Came from fort william Hen'y which Brings news that there was A Scout of three hundred men went to the Narrows (on Lake George) and But fifty Returned and the rest they Recon is Either kild or tacon

July the 25 General web went to fort william hennery

July the 26 there was A man kild<sup>2</sup> By the going off of a Gun Axadentelly as he Sat Reading in his tent there was one hundred men Deteacht for half moon (a bend in the Hudson River)

July the 27 our maquas Brought in two Scalps

July the 28

July the 29 Capt wests Scout Came in and have Disscovered nothing<sup>3</sup> General web Came from the Lake<sup>4</sup> Capt putnam Came in and have Disscovered A Large Body of french and Indiens Coming Against us

July the 30 July the 31

August the first Conno'l frys Rigment Received order to march to fort william H all But the Sick and the Rangers<sup>5</sup> and I Inlisted my Self to Be A Ranger

August the 2 they<sup>6</sup> marchd with 500 of the Regulars

August the 3 this Day morning we heard A Great many Cannon at fort william H in the Afternoon A Post Came to this fort Some of

1. Bean poles and birch bark for litters.

2. "Who never spoke more words than these: I am dead man; the Lord have mercy on me." Putnam, Journal, p. 39.

3. Putnam says they had "buried Lieut. Dormit; whom they found with his head and arms cut off and his body cut to pieces." Ibid., p. 39.

4. Lake George, known as Lake St. Sacrement until re-named in honor of George II by William Johnson on Sept. 1, 1775. Hill, Old Fort Edward, p. 80.

5. Major Fletcher offered in behalf of General Webb that "if we would still stand as Rangers we should (have) three dollars per month allowed us, extraordinary; and half a pint of Rum when we scouted. The Rum we got sometimes; but the money we never see." Putnam, op. cit. p. 39.

6. Colonel Frye's regiment. Detachment of one thousand men and some artillery. The Journals of Col. James Montrossor, (published by the New York Historical Society, N. Y., 1881), p. 23.

## Diary

Capt Putnams men went out and took A frenchman<sup>1</sup> and we are informed that there is 11000 french and Indians with An Artillery Come Against fort william H and more to Join them Evry Day

August the 4 the Cannon kept a Continual fiering there Came in 2 men from the Lake But we Can Learn nothing from them for they ware Sworn we had two Alarms at this fort at night

August the 5 the Cannon Began to fire at the Lake in the morning and So Continued A Smart fire All Day thre Came in two Expreses from the Lake But we can Learn nothing for they ware Sworn three times last night the Cannon fired very Smart

August the 6 the Cannon Began to fier very Early in the morning at A most terrible manner and So Continued All Day by Spels General Jonson<sup>2</sup> Came to this fort with 1000 men

August the 7 the Cannon fierd Very Smart A Spel in the morning and Seemed not to fier So Smart the Rest of the Day there was two men Came in from the Lake But they ware Sworn there was neer 1000 men Came to this fort in the Afternoon

August the 8 the Cannon Began to Play Before Sun Rise and Continued All Day and A most All night there was About 400 men Came to this fort

August the 9 the Cannon Began to fire At the Lake in the morning tho not So Smart as they Did yesterday Sun About two hours high they Semd to Seace Sun About one hour high At night we hear that fort william henry is taken Bu (by) the french which is Sorrifull news to new England in the night the melesha had A Scirmish with the Indians and one man Kild

August the 10 two frenchman<sup>3</sup> Came and Serrendered themselves to our forces and they Inform us that fort William H was Delivered up on Conditions that our men Should go off with flying Collers they was to have their

1. A deserter, who, according to Montessor, gave the forces under Montcalm as three hundred boats, numerous artillery with four thousand men, forty-five hundred Indians, four thousand Canadians and thirty-five hundred regulars, or approximately sixteen thousand, a very evident exaggeration. Montessor, op. cit., p. 26. Webb reported to Lieutenant Governor Delancy that the hostile forces numbered four thousand habitants (Canadians), forty-five hundred Indians and the rest regulars, thirty-six cannon and at least five mortars. Hill, op. cit., p. 133. Hill estimates Montcalm's forces to have been eighty-five hundred all told. Ibid., p. 132. Johnson gives the garrison at the Lake as sixteen hundred with the balance of seven thousand men at, or en route to, Fort Edward after Webb's call for reinforcements. Ibid., p. 132. Webb estimated the British forces at Fort William Henry as twenty-two hundred and at Fort Edward as fifteen hundred. Ibid., p. 134.

2. "Sir William Johnson with some Indians and Militia on horseback - Lord Howe came in here at 9 o'clock at night from Boston. The Militia that came in from Albany, Schenectady etc. computed at fifteen hundred." Montessor, Journals, pp. 26-27.

3. Officers who deserted. Ibid., p. 28.

Packs and Arms and their Cloths and one Cannon which the french General Gave them for their Vallow (valor) and A guard of french to halfway Brook<sup>1</sup> But this Day when they Came to march the Savage Indiens Came upon them and Stript them of their Packs and Cloths and the most of their Arms then they Pict out the negrows Melatows and Indiens and Dragd them Away and we Know not what is Become of them then they fell to killing of our men At A most Dredfull manner they Ravesht the women and then Put them to the Slaughter young Children of the Regular forces had their Brains Dasht out Against the Stones and trees

August:11: our men that ware Scattered in the woods kept Coming All Day and in the night Con'll Fry Came in there ware near 3000 men<sup>2</sup> Came to this fort

August the 12 Some of our men Came Scattering to this fort the Melesha Kept A Continual Coming in all Day them that was at the Lake went off for home

August the 13 Con'll fry Set out for home Last night they Gaurded a french into the woods

August the 14 Some of the melesha went Home two men maid their Escape from the Enemy Also two frenchmen Came to this fort Sur About one hour high At night the french Came to this fort with A flag of truce

August the 15 there was A Deteachment of men Sent to them with A flag of truce and they Brought Above 300 of the prisoners that the french took at the Lake and they Brought the Cannon that the french General Gave to our men and they Bring news that the french have Demollisht fort william Hennery and Laid it in Ashes they inform us that there is one hundred Indiens Gon Down to our frunters also A Duchman Deserted from the french and Came to this fort

August the 16 our men that Came from the Lake yesterday Set out for home four men Deserted from the french and they Say that the Last of the french went off this morning towards night Lieft walker went out with A Scout for to Bring in A wouDED man and there was one that was tacon at oswago Deserted and Came in with the Scout

August the 17 there was A Deateachment of men from all the forces But the Bay Sent to Sarritogue the Melesha Set of for home there was one man Came to this fort Quite naked he had ben out Seven Days and nothing to Eat he was at the Lake when it was taken

August the 18

August the 19 Capt Nelson went with his Company to mend the Road

---

1. Halfway Brook, a branch of Wood Creek chosen in 1759 as the site of Fort Amherst. Hill, Old Fort Edward, p. 178

2. The militia sent to the relief of the forts were at various distances from them. Those a few days march from home were ordered back when the news of the fall of Fort William Henry arrived. Those near the Hudson continued on to their destinations until by August 12 General Johnson estimated the number of men encamped near Fort Edward at 4239. His report of August 17th gave the number as 2931. Ibid., pp. 139-140.

## Diary

August the 20 Capt Learnerd was Carried to the hospital Sick of the Small Pox  
 August the 21 Capt Putnam and Capt wall went out with A Scout of 113 men there was four men which Deserted from the french Came to this fort  
 August the 22 August the 23  
 August the 24 Some of Capt putnams Scout Came Back and Brought 3 oxen which were at the (fort) when the fort was taken  
 August the 25 Last night there was four men that made their Escape from Canada Came to this fort  
 August the 26 they took A Regular at the Lake as he was going to the french  
 August the 27 August the 28  
 August the 29 the Sick<sup>l</sup> was vewed By A Regular Docter three of our Company went to the hospital  
 August the 30 there was on man which Deserted from the french Came to this fort towards night Capt Putnams Scout Came in but Bring Nothing Remarcable  
 August the 31 there was two men Came to this fort which ware Left with A Sick man and they wanted help for they Cold not Bring him in  
 September the first there

-----2

(September 6) A Deteachment of 20 men from our Company and Sent A Scout for 8 Days there was two more Scouts Sent out there was two men that Deserted from the french Came to this fort two of our men that was taken Capive and made their Escape Came to this fort  
 September the 7  
 September the 8 Benjamin Edmons Belonging to our Campany Died  
 September the 9  
 September the 10 All the Sick that ware Able to go ware Sent to Albany

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1. Ames' Almanack for 1759 gives detailed reasons for the sickness in the camps. Mainly it is ascribed to the use of decayed meat, or even good meat without a balancing by use of "Farinacious Substances, Fruits and Herbage....If the common Soldiers have as good and wholesome Meat dealt out to them as the Officers have, yet the Privates have not the same Antidotes, which qualifies their Meat and Makes it wholesome, Wine, Cyder, Lemmons, Vegetable Seeds, Roots etc., neither are they kept so clean, nor enjoy quite so good an Air, therefore they are more sickly."

2. Here pages are missing from the original manuscript. Lyman and Putnam entries during this time are mostly for court-martials, punishments and one execution. Five privates received one thousand lashes each with a cat-o'-nine-tails. Several were pardoned. Hill, Old Fort Edward, p. 144. Putnam tells of a "Connecticut man whipped five hundred lashes for enlisting into the York Forces" and of "three Yorkers whipped six hundred lashes apiece and were to receive the remainder of a thousand; which lashes they received for deserting." Putnam, Journal, p. 45.

September the 11 was 2 Sermons preacht from Exodus 32:10 and one from 16 psalm 2 verce Also the Scout Came in that went out for 8 Days two men that Deserted from the french Came to this fort

September the 12 Septem the 13

Septem the 14 there was twenty men from our Company went under Capt west and the Rest of our Company moved over onto the Island<sup>1</sup>

September the 15

September the 16 all the Prevential forces movd over onto the Island and the Rangers

September the 17 Capt Learnerd Came from the hospital<sup>2</sup> one of our Scouts Came in and Brought in A frenchman there was 1500 Regulars Came to this fort

September the 18 there was one Sermon Preacht from the 16 Psalm and the 2 virce also the Party Came from Sarritogue they were Relived By the Regular forces that Came from Albany

September the 19 they Built A Bridg Across the River

September the 20

Sep the 21 Major Roggers<sup>3</sup> Came to this fort with five hundred men

September the 22 the 23

the 24 A Cold Day

September the 25 there was two Sermons Preacht from the 19 Chapter of Luke the 41 42 virces there was two men that Deserted from the french Came to this fort Last night

September the 26 the 27

the 28 there was two men that Deserted from the french Came to this fort

September the 29 and 30

October the first one Scout Came in

october the 2 there was two Sermons Preacht from Acts the 24 Chap and 25 Also there Came in A Scout that had ben to the narrows and they Brought in A frenchman Captive

october the 3 and 4 there was Indians Disscovered within 5 miles of this fort Capt west went out and Returned At night major Roggers Sent out A Scout for two Days

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1. Great Island, shown on maps in Hills' Old Fort Edward, p. 224. The river, being swifter and shallower in those days than at present, could be easily waded in summer between the fort and the Island. There was also a foot bridge connection. On the island were barracks and a hospital. Ibid., pp. 211-213.

2. He petitioned the authorities for remuneration for his expenses during the twenty-eight days he was ill with small pox. This was voted. Massachusetts Archives, B., LXXVIII, p. 242.

3. From Halifax. Putnam, Journal, pp. 46. Robert Rogers, commander of a battalion of Rangers which gave excellent service to the British forces. His career was a chequered one. Appointed Governor of Michilimackinac (Detroit), he was tried and acquitted of the charge of attempting to sell the post to the French. In 1769 he visited England where he was imprisoned for debt. Upon his return to America after the outbreak of the Revolution he was arrested by General Washington as a spy. He was released on parole, however, only to join the British forces and serve as Colonel in the Queen's Rangers. He saw but little service and returned to England in 1778 after being prosecuted and banished by the State of New Hampshire. Ibid., footnote, pp. 46, 47.

## Diary

october the 5 Some of majors men ware in the woods A hunting and the  
 Indiens got Almost Round them But they maid their Escape and Came  
 to this fort  
 october the 6 7 and 8  
 october the 9 there was one Sermon Preacht from the 16 Psalm 2 virce also  
 Several Parties of major

----- 1

october the 22 the party Returned from the Lake  
 october the 23 one Sermon Preacht this morning there was 3 Sheep and  
 one fat ox found Dead in the yard  
 October the 24 was A Storm of hald and in the Afternoon it turned to Rain  
 and they found A man Kild and Scalpt neer the Brickells (brick kilns)  
 About half A mile from the fort  
 october the 25 there was Another man found kild<sup>2</sup> and Scalpt and we Recon  
 they was kild By A party of Indiens  
 october the 26  
 october the 27 at night there was A man Died very Suddenly he was  
 walking About in the Day time and At night he Lay Down and went  
 Sleep and never wakt So as to Be Sensible  
 october the 28  
 the 29 was A Snowey Day and In the night it turned to Rain  
 october the 30  
 the 31 Last night Died Amos Whitney Belonging to our Company he had  
 Be Sick Some time in the hospital  
 november the first the 2 3  
 and the 4 it was A Storm of Snow & Rain  
 november the 5 there was one Scout went out there was one man that maid  
 his Escape from moreall (Montreal) to this fort and they Began to  
 fling Down the fashen Batree  
 november the 6 one Rignent of Regulars with the Independants marched for  
 Albany  
 november the 7 two Ridgments of Regulars marched for Albany also the Earl  
 of Loudoun<sup>3</sup> Came to this fort and At night there was one frenchman  
 and tow Indiens Came to this fort with A flag of truce and they  
 Brought Some English offisers that was taken at Swago (Oswego) and  
 they Bring news that our men that was taken At the Lake are Sent to  
 Hallafax

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1. Here a portion of the original manuscript is missing. Putnam's Journal gives mainly routine duties for these dates. There were also executions for theft and desertion. Hill, Old Fort Edward, p. 148.

2. Also at the brick kilns. Three men, butchers, went out for sheep on Sunday (24th). The third was not found. Putnam, op. cit., p. 48.

3. Lord Loudon. In command of British forces in America From August, 1756 to March, 1758. Hill, Old Fort Edward, p. 150.

November the 8  
 and 9 one Rigmnt of Regulars marched for Albany  
 November the 10 we were ordered to fix our Packs in order to march to the  
 Neighbourhood of Albany and we marched About 5 miles and Campd in the  
 woods  
 November the 11 we marched About 7 miles Below Sarritogue and Campd in the  
 woods  
 November the 12 we marched to Stillwater and Campd in the woods Below the  
 fort  
 November the 13  
 the 14 all But our Company marched to halfmoon  
 November the 15  
 the 16 we marched to halfmoon  
 November the 17  
 the 18<sup>1</sup> the Sick went of for Albany and the Remainder of our Company went  
 under Capt hennery young Brown the whole Rigmnt was Devided into  
 four Companies one Company went to Sopas and one to Senactety  
 (Schenectady) and one taried at half moon and our Company was Stationed  
 at Stillwater  
 november the 19 20 & 21 & 22: 23 and 24  
 25 John Phelps (of Rutland, Mass.) Died Belonging to our Company in the  
 Hospital at Albany  
 november the 26 part of our Company marched Back to Stillwater  
 november the 27 the 28  
 and the 29 the Rest of our Company marched to Stillwater  
 november the 30 Desember the first 2 and 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  
 and the 11 Day we Passed muster Before the Cheif Commander of this Place  
 Desember the 12: 13: 14:  
 the 15 there was A Company of men Came from Sarritogue with five frenchmen  
 which Deserted from the french  
 Desember the 16 they ware Sent with A Command of men to halfmoon  
 Desember the 17 this Day we hear that Major Rogers Set out with 300 men to  
 the narrows  
 Desember the 18 I Reciyed order to fix in order to march to new England  
 Desember 19 4 of our Company got A pass and marched to half moon  
 Desember the 20 we marched to Albany  
 Desember 21  
 Desember the 22 we Drawd provisions for 11 Days to Last us to new England  
 and they Gave us our Discharge and we marched About 17 miles  
 Desember the 23 we marched About 15 miles  
 Desember the 24 we marched to whare Spir kept tavern within 5 miles of  
 Sheffield  
 Desember the 25 we marched to Sheffield and there my Company out went me  
 Desember the 26 I marched About 4 miles  
 Desember the 27 I marched to Brewers<sup>2</sup>

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1. On this date, Putnam was among the 560 drafted to remain during the winter. Putnam, Journal, p. 49.

2. Tavern at No. 1, later Tyringham. Ames, Almanack for the Year 1760.

## Diary

Desember ye 28 I marched through the Green woods 18 miles and I met Capt  
Learnerd at Roots<sup>1</sup>

Desember the 29 I marched About one mile

Desember the 30 I Lay Still not Being well

Desember the 31 I marched to Westfield

January the first Capt Learnerds horses Came Back and I Rode from westfield  
to Kingstown

January the 2 I Rid to Brookfield new Meting house (West Brookfield) and  
from there I marched to Lieut Bootherls<sup>2</sup>

January 3 I marched home to my friends and Relations

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1. Capt. Learned had been invalided home from the hospital at Fort Edward, September 27. Putnam, op. cit., p. 47.

2. Alexander Bothwell, 2nd, was one of the first ten settlers of Oakham, in 1748, going there from Rutland. He built a house at Rice Corners and in 1758 received a tavern license. Henry Parks Wright, Soldiers of Oakham, (New Haven, 1914) pp. 49, 50.



## NOTES AND JOURNAL, 1755-1807

Remarks Upon the Year

November the 18 1755

About four in the morning there was A Very Surprising Shock of an Earthquake<sup>1</sup> which was So Exceeding hard that it Shook Down the Tops of Chimneys and Steples to metenhouses twas also Attended with Several Small Shocks and the 22 Day folowing there was Another Considerable hard Shock of an Earthquake At This time it Semed to be Very Awakening and I was Under Concern About my futer well Being

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1. The earthquake of November 18, 1755, is well recorded. In Worcester County there remain today at least two manifestations of it.

In what was then the town of Holden but is now included in West Boylston and less than ten miles from Paxton several acres of land sank to a depth of "more than the height of a man" with a distinct line of cleavage around its borders. The course of the Quinapoxet river near there was changed and a high bluff was apparently tipped sidewise so that where there had originally been a bank some 50 feet high on one side of the river this was reduced to a few feet, while on the other side a new bluff arose to almost 70 feet. D. H. Hurd, History of Worcester County (Philadelphia, 1889), vol. I, p. 604. Samuel C. Damon, History of Holden, (Worcester, 1841), pp. 39, 40.

In the town of Sutton about fifteen miles from Paxton is a chasm known as Purgatory. Unfortunately the only evidence we have of its origin and date has been handed down in the following manner. At a meeting of the students of the Oxford High School in May 1890, Miss Lucy Davis of Oxford, then an old lady, told the story which she had heard many times from her father, Nathaniel Davis, which described the experiences of his father, John Davis. In 1755 John was about 23 years old, a young man fond of hunting and familiar with all the surrounding territory. Early in November, 1755 he hunted the region around Oxford and Sutton and on his birthday, November 30, he revisited the same area, where, to his surprise and horror, he came upon a newly opened chasm about 40 feet wide, dropping some 70 feet. Rocks were piled in great confusion. He spent very little time investigating. No mention of an earthquake has been found in the records of Oxford or Sutton at that time.

Professor Williams of Harvard published in the Memoirs of the American Academy (Boston, 1785), vol. I, pp. 271-276, a paper on earthquakes in which he described the one of November 18, 1755, which he states was felt from Halifax, in the North, for 800 miles south along the Atlantic Coast. The time of the tremor was fixed at exactly 11 minutes, 35 seconds after four in the morning by the accidental stopping of a time piece. It appears that Professor Winthrop of Harvard had placed a long glass tube in the case of clock for safe keeping, with the result that the earth tremor tipped the tube in such a way that it bound the pendulum. Observation made by Professor Winthrop with his own watch gave the duration of the disturbance as  $4\frac{1}{2}$  minutes.

April 25: 1757

I Set out to go into A Campaign and I was tacon Sick the first Day of August and at the Same time the Enemy Laid Seage At fort wiliam henry within 17 miles At this time I was under trouble But God Delevered us out of the hand of the Enemy and Blessed be his holy name that he hath ben So Gracious and Mercifull to me as to Return Me to My friends the third Day of January following O may I never forget the Goodness of God to me an unworthy Sinner

March 12 1761

there was A Considerable Shock of An Earthquake

october 23 1761

the night Between 23 and 24 there was the most Violent wind from the northeast that Ever I was Sensible of in My Life But through the Goodness of God No Lives Lost as I have heard Except Six men in A Vessel at Sea

(Fly Leaf Doggerel)

Seth Metcalf is my name also New England is my Station  
Rutland is my Dwelling Place and Christ is my Salvation  
When I am Dead and in my Grave and all my bones are Rotten .  
If this you See Remember me Let me not be Forgotton  
Rutland March 15: 1758

october 29 1758

upon Consideration of years past and our many Defeats when we have Set out to Go Against our Enemies I would Remark that this year past Altho it hath pleased God to frown upon us in the Expedition Against Ticonderoga yet it hath pleased the Almighty to Grant wonderfull Success to his Majests Armes in the Reduction of frontenack And the Island of Capebriton for which I would Desire to Bless his holy name

upon Consideration of the year 1759 this year hath Ben Remarcable for Succeses Against our Enemies in the Reduction of Quibec Ticonderoga and Crown point for which I would Desire to Give Glory to God for his unmerited Goodness

The year 1760 it hath pleased the Almighty God to Give into our hands the Rest of our Enemies Country of Canady O may I never forget his Goodness

This year 1761 the Great God hath Semed to frown upon this Land By A Seveer Drought Cuting Short most of the fruits of Earth and threatening with Scarcity of food and By A very hard winter following O that I might take A due notis of his and Return to the Lord

This year 1762 I would Remark the following instances of Devine providence In the Begining of this year it pleased God to Viset us of this Land with An hard winter and A very Backward Spring which I Look upon as A frown of Devine providence Considering the Great Scarcity of food for man and Beast and more Espetially I Desire to Be Effected Considering the frown of Providence this Summer in the Scorching Drought with which we have Ben Viseted whereby most of the fruits of the Earth Cut Short which threttens with Cleanness of teath in this

Land Also God Semed to thretten this Land By Guiving Some part of it Namly newfoundland into the hand of our Enemyes of which we were Ready to Say we in no Danger I would Also Acknowledg the Divine Goodness of God Although the Drought was So Severe yet God Did wonderfully Provide Both for man and Beast Greatly Beyound Expectation Also the Almighty prospered our Arms So as to Drive off our Enemies that made an Invation Upon us - Also I would Acknowledge the Great Goodness of God in prospering his Majesties Aarms Both By Sea and Land and in perticular in taking the Havanna Considering these and the Like Providences May it Excite Me to put my Intire Dependance upon God and Chuse him for my portion and Live to his Glory

Remarks upon the year 1763

this winter hath Ben Exceeding hard the Snow near 4 feet Deep Also A terrable Storm of snow hapned on the Second of February with Almost as high A wind as that the 23 of october 1761 A Cold Backward Spring May the 23 there Came a Snow neer over Shoes Notwithstanding the Backwardness of the Spring it pleased God to Give us A Very fruitfull Summer and to fill our hearts with food and Gladness for which I would Desire Thankfully to Bless him the God and author of all Mercyes Both' Spiritual and temporal - I would also Remark and Acknowledg the Goodness of God in the helth So Generally Enjoyd Among us Also

Remarks on the year 1763

this year God was pleased in Devine providence unite the Contending powers of Europe So that there is A General Peace Restored to the Nations and percularly Advantagious to the English Nation which Loudly Calls for praise and thanksgiveing to Almighty God for his Goodness and wonderfull works to the Children of Men O May I Never forget his Goodness But May this and all other instances of his Goodness Excite me to Gloryfy him

Remarks upon the year 1764

This year Commences with the Metropolis of this province Being Viseted with that Enfectious Destemper the Small Pox which I Look upon as A frown of Devine providence not only to the place where the Enfection is But to the whole province and Land - But God was pleased in Infinite Mercy to Bless means Used for that Enfectious Destemper So that It Proved not So Mortal as in times past - the winter this year not So hard as the as winters past the Spring Very Backward and Dry A Cold Summer which was Very Detremental to the fruits of the Earth Late frosts in the Spring and Early frosts in the fall Cut Short most of the fruits of the Earth and which Caused Considerable Scarcity

Remarks upon the year 1764

Notwithstanding these thretning Aspects of Devine Providence God hath Caused us to Sing of Mercy as well as Judgment - God in Infinite Mercy hath Ben Pleased to Continue Peace in our Borders and Continuing helth in most of our habitation and Beyond Expectation to prevent the Spred of that Infectious Distemper the Smallpox in the Country But Above all God hath Ben Pleased to Continue his Glorious Gospel

Among Us - Considering these and the Like things may it Be A Renewed Call to Me to Serve the Lord hath God Ben Showing me My Dependance upon him May it Excite my obdience to him hath God Blest me with helth and peace may it Be Renewed tye upon my Soul to Love the God of Love and peace and Righteousness

Remarks upon the year 1765

This year Commences with Very Cold weather for this Season and An Exceeding hard winter for four months the Earth was Almost Entirely Covered with Snow Also A Violent Storm of Snow hapned on the Lords Day March 24 with more than ordinary Strong wind the Snow fell one feet and ten Inches Deep which was Remarcable Considering the Season and I Desire to Look upon Such Storm as A frown of Gods providence Also A Very Cold Backward Spring May the Eighth A Snow three Inches Deep followed By A hard frost which froze the Ground and Still water Considerably the Summer Cold the Latter part Very Dry Notwithstanding the Backwardness of the Spring and the Coldness of the Summer it pleased God to Crown this year with his Goodness and to Give us A Competency of the Good things of this Life and to Give us A Seficiency of food for Man and Beast Beyond Expectation for which I would Desire to Bless and Magnify his holy name - the Lords Day october 27 a Very Remarcable Storm of Snow with A Very high wind the Snow fell twenty two Inches Deep May this with other Remarkable providences as well as Common providences Awaken me to A holy Life and Conversation May it Cause me to See my Dependance upon God who Can Command Even the wind and Storm to Destroy me Also this year Came an Act from England Called the Stamp Act that is A Duty Laid on all writings which is thought will Be Very oppressive to the Inhabitants of North America and occations Mobs throughout all the provinces of the Continent the Day Comes Being the first of November when this Act is to take place But Mobs keep it Back the winter very hard the Snow Lying Stedy from the Begening of December Considering what hath pased over this Land this year it Sows that God is Angry with us of this Land and is now Smiting with his Rod Especialy By the hand of our Rulars - O that I might See the Rod and who hath Appointed it May God Grant that the these things may Awaken me to Seek first the Kingdom of God and trust him for the Addition of all other needful things

Remarks upon the year 1766

the Latter part of the winter more Moderate than the former winters the Spring Considerable warm A Drought Ensued the Begining of the Summer which was Something Detremental to the Grass But God was pleased to Bestow his Blesing on the Corn So that there is A Grate plenty also the Lord was pleased to put into the heart of our king and parlament A Conserrn for the Colonies of North America So that they have Repeeld the Stamp Act which was So Oppressive and Detremental to our trade and navigation - I would Acknowledge this to Be the Lords Doing and it ought Exite me to Love and Gratitude to him for this and Evry other of his mercys

May 26 Remarks on the year 1767

the winter past hath Ben Very Moderate But A Very Cold and Backward

## Journal

Spring and Verry hard frosts God Seems to be Showing that we must Depend upon him for evry thing that we Enjoy O that My heart might be prepared to Glorify his name in Evry Station and Condition of Life

December 30 1795

this Day it Semed to me that my heart would almost Sink upon Consideration of the providences that have passed over me the year past it hath pleased a holy God to Viset my family with Sickness and Death<sup>1</sup> my four Eldest Sons and one Daughter Died within 20 days the first Died Nov 21 God is Righteous for I have Don wickedly O I would Acknowledge that I Set my heart too much upon my Children O Enumerable have Ben my Sinis I have Neglected my Duty to my Children and my heart hath Ben Set on this Vain World O how forgetfull have I been of the providences of God that have passed over me for a Great number of years past I have been unthankfull for merces and have not made a Good Improvement of the Afflitive Dispensations of providence and a Great number of Vain thoughts have Lodged in my heart O I have been formal in family Worship and in privet Retirment and have not amed at the Glory of God as I ought to have Don O that God would Give me Grace to forsake Every Sin and to Love him Supreamly and when Creature Comforts fail may I take my Entire Contentment and Satisfaction in God may I Give Glory to a taking as well as Giving God I would Desire to take a thankfull Notis of the Great Goodness of God in Spairing Me and my Consort and three of my Children and in Some Measure Recovering to helth when Dangerously Sick I would Desire to Give Glory to God for the fruitfull season the year past and that this Evening I have Recd Some Comfort in privet and family worship - O that God would Quickken me in my Duty and help me by his Grace to Bring up the Remainder of my Children for God O that I Might be Contented with the Alotments of Devine providence and have an Entire Resignation to his Blessed will and Grace to Glorify God under Every Circumstance and Condition of Life

December 31 1796

I would take Notis of the Great Goodness of God the year past in the Extrordinary fruitfullness of the year and in particular for his Great Goodness to me and my family that God has preserved us in Life and helth and Given us a Compitency of the Good things of this Life but I have ben Evil and unthankfull O I would Desire to Lament my Vain thoughts my Worldly mindedness of my Carless performance of

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1. The scourge of "throat distemper", or diphtheria, took a toll of children and young people during that year that would seem impossible in this age of anti-toxins. In the Royalston Cemetery a stone tells of five children in one family who were victims of this disease in the course of a few weeks, together with fifty-two other children of the town. The stone ascribes the epidemic to a dispensation of Providence.

Duty O that God would Give me his unworthy Creature Grace to Strive against worldimindedness and Vain thoughts Deadness and Coldness in my Duty O that God would help me to Resolve against these Sins that So Easily beset me O that all Sin might be Subdued O that God would Give his unworthy Creature Grace to Glorify him under Every Circumstance of Life O that I might walk within my house with a perfect heart and Bring up my Children for God and if God shall preserve me another year may he Give this unworthy Creature Grace to Live a more Exemplary Life than Every yet he has Don

December 31 1797

Lords Day Evning I would Desire to take Notis of the Great Goodness of God the year past in preserving Such an unworthy Creature as I in Life and in preserving my Consort and Children Glory to God for the helth Enjoyed in my Family Glory to God that he hath Crowned the the year past with his Goodness for plenty of provision for Man and Beast the Lord hath ben pleased to Give me and mine Enumerable favours and Blessings But I have ben Evil and unthankfull I have not done my Duty to my Consort my Self nor my Children as I ought to have Don I would Desire to Beg forgiveness of God and that God would keep from the Sins that do So Easily beset me Espeshally that God would keep me from Vain thoughts and Worly Mindedness and inordinate Cares and Conerns O that I might be made truly thankful for Every Mercy and if it Shall please God to preserve me another year that I might Bring Some fruit to the Glory of God O that God would Enable to walk within my house with a perfect heart and teach my Children in the way they Should Go Even in the way of the Lord

December 31 1798

the year past the Lord hath been pleased to preserve me and my Consort and Children in Life and helth and hath Crowned the year with his Goodness and Given my hands Strength to Labour and hath Blessed the Labour of my hands So that I have a Great plenty of Necessities and Comforts of Life But O Unworthy Creature that I am that am Continually Sinning against the God and Father of all my Mercys O that I might be Enabled By Devine Grace to abstain from all apperence of Evil and if it Should please God to preserve me another year O that he would Give me Grace to walk within my house with a perfect heart and bring up my Children for God O that the Great God would make me truly thankfull for Evry Mercy and Give me Grace to Gloryfy him under Evry Circumstance of Life O that God would keep me from Sin Espesily from Vain thoughts and Worldy mindedness and from formality in Duty O that I might Begin the next year with God and walk Close with God O that I might Live a better Life than Ever yet I have Don O that all might be Devoted to the Servis of God O that I might be made Holy in heart and Life and Love Holiness Seing a Divine beauty therein

December 31 1799

Glory Glory Be Given to God for the Salvations of another year that I and my Family have been preserved in Life helth and Strength and though God Seemed to frown upon Some parts of our Land in a Great Drought in the Latter part of the Summer yet he hath been pleased

## Journal

to Grant to us a Competency of the Good thing of this Life and to provide for man and Beast we have Enjoyed Peace in our Borders and health in our habitation A Holy God hath Seen fit to take from us the Hero of our Land General Washington by the Stroke of Death - upon Consideration of these and the Like providences may it Excite me to Love and Fear the Blessed God and if the Great God Should preserve me another year may I Live more to his Glory than Ever yet I have Don O that the Blessed God would give me Grace to walk within my house with a perfect heart and Enable me to Bring up My Children in the fear of God O that I an unworthy Creature might have Grace to teach my Children by Example as well as precept the Lord Shew my unworthiness and my Incificiency the Lord keep me from Sin and Especially the Sins that Do So Easily Beset me The Lord keep me from wandring thoughts in Duty O that I might Begin the Next year with God and walk Close with God and Glorify his Great Name under Every Circumstance and Conviction of Life through Jesus Christ to whome be Glory forever and Ever Amen the Lord help me to Lament my Numberless Sins and Give me true Repentance

December 31 1800

The Lord hath Brought me to the Close of another year although I have ben as a barren Tree in his Vinyard Glory be to God that he hath preserved my Family in Life and health Glory to God that he hath Crowned the year past with his Goodness that he hath Given My hands Strength to Labour and Blessed the work of my hands so that I have a Great plenty of the Nesessaries of Life and most of the Conveniencies O that I might have a Reallizing Sence that all mercy and Blessing flows from the Bountifull hand of God and may I Record it to the Glory of his name I would Desire to Lament My Numberless Sins Before God I am utterly unworthy of the least favour O that God would Give me that Grace that I might Glorify him with Every Circumstance and Condition of Life and if the Great God Should preserve me another year that he would be pleased to Give me that Grace that I might Live More to his Glory than Ever yet I have Don O that God would keep me Sin and Espesily those Sins that do So Easily Beset me O that God would keep from Worldymindedness and from Wandring thoughts in Duty O that God would Incline my heart to meditate on heavenly and Devine things O that I might Live to the Glory of God and be wholly Devoted to his Servis through Jesus Christ to whome be Glory forever and Ever Amen O that I might Begin the next year with God and live his Glory

December 31 1801

Glory Glory to God that he hath preserved me an unworthy worm of the Dust another year although I have ben Barren and unfruitfull I would Desire to Lament my formallity and worldly Mindedness yet notwithstanding my Numberless Sins it hath pleased a mercyfull God to preserve me and my family in Life and health and Given my hand Strength to Labour and hath Blessed the Labour of my hand so that I have a Great plenty of the Necessities of and most of the Comforts of Life for which I Desire to Give thanks and Glory to God and if it Should please God to preserve me another year that he would Give me Grace

to Live to his Glory to Strive against Sin and for the Advancement  
of the Redeemers Kingdom Amen

December 31 1801

O that I an unworthy worm of the Dust might be Enabled to give Glory  
and thanks and praise to God for the Mercys of the year past that he  
hath preserved me and my family in Life that he hath Crowned the year  
with his Goodness that he hath provided food for man and Beast O  
my I Never forget the Goodness of God But that his Goodness might  
Lead me to Repentance and Engage my heart to faithfullness in his I  
would take notis of a Snow that fell the Last week in February which  
fell mere four feet Deep with an Exceeding high wind O that I might  
take a Sutable Notis of all Gods providences O that I might Lament  
Before God my Barrenness and unfruitfullness in his Servis and if  
God Should preserve another year may I might Strive to my utmost for  
the advansment of the Redeemers Kingdom and for a Revival of Religion -  
My God keep me from Vain thoughts and Worldly mindedness and preserve  
me Safe to his heavenly kingdom there may I spend an Eternity in  
Giving Glory to God Amen

December 31 1803

Glory to God that he has preserved Such an unworthy and hell  
Deserving Creature as I am another year and hath given me and my  
family a Comfortable measure of helth and hath Blessed the work of  
my hands and hath Bountifully provided food and Raiment for me and  
my family - O that I might be made truly thankfull O that I might  
Live as well as Spake his praise the Lord help me to Lament the  
Sins of the year past and if God Should preserve me another year O  
that he would Give his unworthy Creature Grace to Live more to his  
Glory than Ever yet he has Don O that God would keep me from  
wandering thoughts in Duty O that I might Live more to his Glory  
than Ever yet I have don for Jesus Christs Sake Amen

December 31 1804

O that God would help his unworthy Creature to give thanks and praise  
to his Glorious Name for the Salvation of another year O that I  
a Sinfull and unworthy Creature might take a Sutable notice of the  
providences of God the year past - the Latter part of the Winter was  
Very hard Deep Snows and Very windy a Terrible Storm hapned in  
October from the Northeast with thunder and Lightning and Such a  
Dreadfull wind as Greatly Damaged the Shiping in our harbours and  
our Buildings and timber Glory to God mine were preserved and God  
hath provided food and Raiment for me and my family O that I might  
have a thankfull heart that I might forever Give Glory to God - O  
that God would help me to Lament the Sins of the year past and if it  
Should please God to preserve me another year O that I might Begin  
it with God and Live more to his Glory than Ever yet I have Don  
Striving for the Advancement of the Redeemers Kingdom Amen

December 31 1805

the Lord hath been pleased in his Great mercy to preserve me and  
mine another year O that I might be made truly thankfull - the  
Lord hath Given me Occasion to Sing of Mercy and of Judgment O  
that I might take a Sutable notice of Every providence that hath

pass over me the year past in those terrible Storms of wind and Rain Lightning and thunder in the Extreame Drought to July 31 it pleased the Great God to consume my Barm and all within it with Lightning his Imediate hand God is Righteous for I have Don Wickedly I would Desire to Give thanks and Glory to his Great name that he hath Inclined the hearts of my fellow Creatures to Lend a hand to my help So far that I and my family are Comfortabelly provided for another year God Should See fit to preserve us. O that God if he Sees fit to preserve his unworthy Creature an other year he would be pleased to Give him that Grace that he might Live more to his Glory than Ever he has yet Don O that I might Glorify God under Circumstance and Condition of Life for Christs Sake Amen

January 1 1807

Glory Glory to God that Such an unworthy Sinfull Creature as I am brought to Behold another year notwithstanding my Coldness Deadness and barrenness in his Servis and has Given my hands Strength to Labour in time of old age So that notwithstanding the Drought and the Coldness of the Sumer I and my family are Comfortably provided for did I Say the Coldness of the Summer O alas I Desire to Lament the Coldness of my hart I have been a barron tree in his Viryard O that I might truly Lament my Sins befor God and if it Should please God to preserve me another year O that he would Grant the Special Influences of his Blessed Spirit that his unworthy Creature might Bring forth fruit to the Glory of his name through Jesus Christ Amen



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